

# Newberry to Forefront In Agriculture

**A History of Benefit and Progress of County Derived  
From Work of Demonstration Effort—County Lead  
State in Boys' Prizes—Forward Movement in  
Every Line of Farm Work—Marked Im-  
provement Result of Intelligent Direction.**

(By T. M. Mills.)

Demonstration work was begun in Newberry county in 1908, with Mr. H. H. Abrams county agent. The work then consisted in getting a number of farmers to select one or two acres as a demonstration plot and see how much cotton or corn they could raise on a single acre. Some of the results were really surprising, and this began to open the eyes of the people to a realization of the fact that they need not cultivate two acres to produce what could easily be produced on one acre.

Mr. Abrams only served as agent one year, when he resigned and Mr. S. M. Duncan received the appointment and served five years.

During Mr. Duncan's term of service the work became well rooted in Newberry county. The growing of legumes (clovers and vetch) was encouraged, and the last year Mr. Duncan served he won the prize offered to the county agent who should succeed in getting

spring. By this practice and the use of barnyard manure our crops have been greatly increased and at the same time the fertility of our soil has been materially improved, getting better each year.

This year we have gathered from several demonstration plots as much as 40 to 45 bushels of corn per acre, with no fertilizer at all being used.

This was grown on upland, not bottoms and was planted after having thoroughly disked and turned a good growth of crimson clover.

This is new farming for Newberry county, but old farming for other sections.

## Hog Cholera.

Another duty that has been added to those of the demonstration agent is the watching up and control of hog cholera.

This dread disease has caused much loss in the hog raising industry and has been one of its main hindrances. The farmers have been offered many

hope to see much better results in the near future.

## Live Stock.

Believing that no one can successfully farm without live stock, we are encouraging the farmers to raise more live stock and better live stock.

The tick has gone from Newberry county, and with him, or following close after, will go the scrub cattle. We are teaching the farmer by practical demonstration that it costs just as much to feed a scrub calf as it does to feed a pure bred calf, while the returns from the scrub are oftentimes not more than half what they are from the pure bred.

The business men and bankers have become interested in this work and by way of encouragement, some pure bred bulls have been bought by them for use of the farmers in breeding up their herd.

The Live Stock association of Newberry county, recently organized, has also encouraged better live stock, and as a result 15 or 20 pure bred registered beef type cattle have been brought into Newberry county this year, and we have orders for more, which we hope to supply soon.

In connection with live stock we are encouraging and establishing better permanent pastures, without which live stock can not be raised profitably.

## Farmers' Exchange.

This is another new feature to demonstration work. Through the courtesy of Col. E. H. Aull, a column in The Herald and News has been offered to the farmers as a medium of information. They have the privilege of advertising anything they have raised and have for sale, or any want—free of charge. This service has already accomplished much for the farmers, but will be of more benefit when it becomes more generally used.

## Plant Breeding.

A Plant Breeders' association was recently organized in the county, looking toward the breeding of better seed. The general habit of going to the corn crib to select seed corn or to the cotton seed pile to get planting seed is very unwise and is costing the farmers much money by producing poor yields. We have established one corn breeding station on the farm of Mr. Welch Wilbur, where we are going to try out several different varieties of corn and aim to select the one or ones most suited to this section of country and then encourage the planting and breeding of these varieties. Besides this, we will encourage the improvement of other seed, such as wheat, oats, cotton, etc. Good seed pay just as well as pure bred stock.

## Teaching Agriculture in the Schools.

Three years ago a movement was started in the state to establish demonstrating plots at a few schools in

each county. Two such plots are yet being worked in Newberry county, with very good results. These plots afford an opportunity of doing practical field work in connection with the class room work. In addition, the demonstration forces have gotten out a text book especially adapted to the needs of the farm and school to be introduced into the schools. A number of the schools in the county have already asked for this special course of study and it will be begun under the supervision of the county agent just as soon as we can procure a sufficient number of the books from the press. This means we will reach a much greater percentage of the people, and will firmly fix in the minds of the boys and girls of Newberry county the primary and foundation principles of a better agriculture.

## "General Improvement."

Besides these specific duties the demonstration agent stands for the betterment and general uplift of the people. Better stock, better planting seed, better farming implements, better and more conveniences about the homes—better roads, better schools and last of all, but by no means least, a better people. These are the things we strive for and shall always strive to make the good, better and the better, best.

When hope keeps pace with love the race is nearly one.

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T. M. MILLS, FARM DEMONSTRATOR FOR NEWBERRY COUNTY.

the greatest amount of clover and vetch seed saved.

The Boys' Corn club was organized in Newberry county in 1911, under the supervision of the county superintendent of education. It remained under his supervision a few years and, finding he did not have time to give it the attention it should have, the work was put in the hands of the county demonstration agent, who still has it under his direct supervision.

The club work has been very successful and is still growing in favor and results.

Truly "a child shall lead them." This has been true in the production of corn. Several of the boys have produced more than 100 bushels per acre, and the average produced by the boys more than doubles the average per acre of the state.

And among the Corn club boys will be found some of the best judges of corn to be found in the county. They know how to grow good corn and also know how to select it after it has been grown. This was proven at the State fair this year. Only nine prizes were offered the Corn club boys in the state and the Newberry county boys won four of them.

In January, 1914, Mr. Duncan resigned as demonstration agent to accept other work, and Mr. T. M. Mills was appointed agent in March following. Under his supervision the work has continued to grow and to prosper.

## Soil Building.

Several new phases have been added to the work. Instead of seeing how much could be raised on one acre by the heavy application of commercial fertilizer, we have laid aside the practice of soil robbing and introduced instead soil building by growing winter legumes or rye and oats as a green manure crop to be turned under in the

so-called hog cholera cures, ranging all the way from Zadoc to Red Devil eye, all of which are fakes and perfectly worthless.

There is no hog cholera cure known to medical science, but there is a preventive, and that is the hog cholera serum. The demonstration agent has inoculated more than a hundred hogs (valued to twelve and fifteen hundred dollars) this year with good success, and hopes within a few years, with the co-operation of the farmers, to entirely stamp out this disease.

## Orchards.

We have also taken up the work of pruning and spraying fruit trees. This is a new phase of the work just begun last year, but several hundred trees were pruned and sprayed in the county last season and we hope to do much more work along this line during the coming winter and spring. We have also made arrangements with certain nurseries to furnish us trees at wholesale price, so the cost of putting out a new orchard will be reduced 100 to 150 per cent at least.

If you are in need of young trees see your demonstration agent.

## Co-operative Buying.

Much has been accomplished already in co-operative buying. Last winter the agent got in touch with the Farmers' union and representative farmers in different sections of the county and with all these forces co-operating, succeeded in getting the farmers to buy about 1,500 tons of fertilizer, co-operatively, at a saving of something like \$2 a ton. This did not mean so much to one farmer, but to all it meant a great saving to the farmers of the county.

This is only one example of the many instances of co-operative buying that we are encouraging. The spirit of co-operation is growing fast and we

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## Shoes

A Big Line of Men's Women's and Children's Shoes of all kinds and styles. Sunday shoes, school shoes and every day shoes. Old shoes and new shoes. Big Shoes and little shoes. Shoes for everybody at all kinds of prices. Right now is the time to buy, while you can get the kind you like at the price you like. They are going and they must continue to go.

## Dry Goods and Notions

Our Line of Dry Goods and Notions is entirely too large and must be reduced. Now is your opportunity to get good cheap. The first to come will get the best selections. These are new goods, but they will be sold at old prices. Be quick and these bargains will cause many a new smile. We mean to begin the New Year with a Brand New Line.

## Cabbage and Other Produce

A Carload of Cabbage has just arrived. Nice hard Danish Heads at \$1.25 per hundredweight as long as they last. You had better be on time for them too. They will be higher later.

## Peanuts

100 Bushels of County Grown Peanuts at 5c per pound. The first order gets them. Act quick!

## Groceries

We Handle Staple and Fancy Groceries—always the best. These are handled fast and on a close margin. It is to your interest to always get our prices before buying.

## Rugs

A New Line of Rugs has just arrived. The assortment is beautiful and prices right. Get your rugs for Christmas early.

## Furniture

These prices have been slashed too, and it's moving and must move on. Come and get our prices and you will be surprised to find how elegantly you can furnish your house with a small outlay of cash. This is important, don't put it off, as delay is extremely dangerous in this case. Lots of folks just like you have been looking for this opportunity.

## Hardware

We Have a Varied Assortment of Hardware. Anything from a carpet-tack to a grain drill. And if you want a steam engine will get that for you. Our prices on hardware are as cheap as you'll find anywhere, and what we don't have in stock we will take pleasure in getting for you. We are headquarters for Oliver Chilled Plows and repairs. And can please you with all kinds of machinery and tools.

## Buggies and Wagons

We Handle the Very Best Makes and can furnish you with any style desired on short notice. We guarantee satisfaction for a reasonable length of time with reasonable care for the vehicle.

Polite service is guaranteed. We have only satisfied customers. Give us your business and you will be pleased. If you do not see what you want, call for it; it will be our pleasure to get it for you. We are here to please our customers. We care for you while you live and furnish "underground specialties" for you when you are dead.